



PERGAMUM

OUTLINE

- 1. Wartime Context of Revelation*
- 2. Prophetic Warning*
- 3. Sharp 2 Edge Sword*
- 4. Commendation – attack from the outside*
- 5. Correction - the battle of ideas from the inside*
- 6. CONSOLATION -*

REVELATION: WARTIME SETTING

Altar of Zeus Shipped to Berlin - late 19th century







Alkyoneos

Athena

Nike

Ge

thunder-
bolt

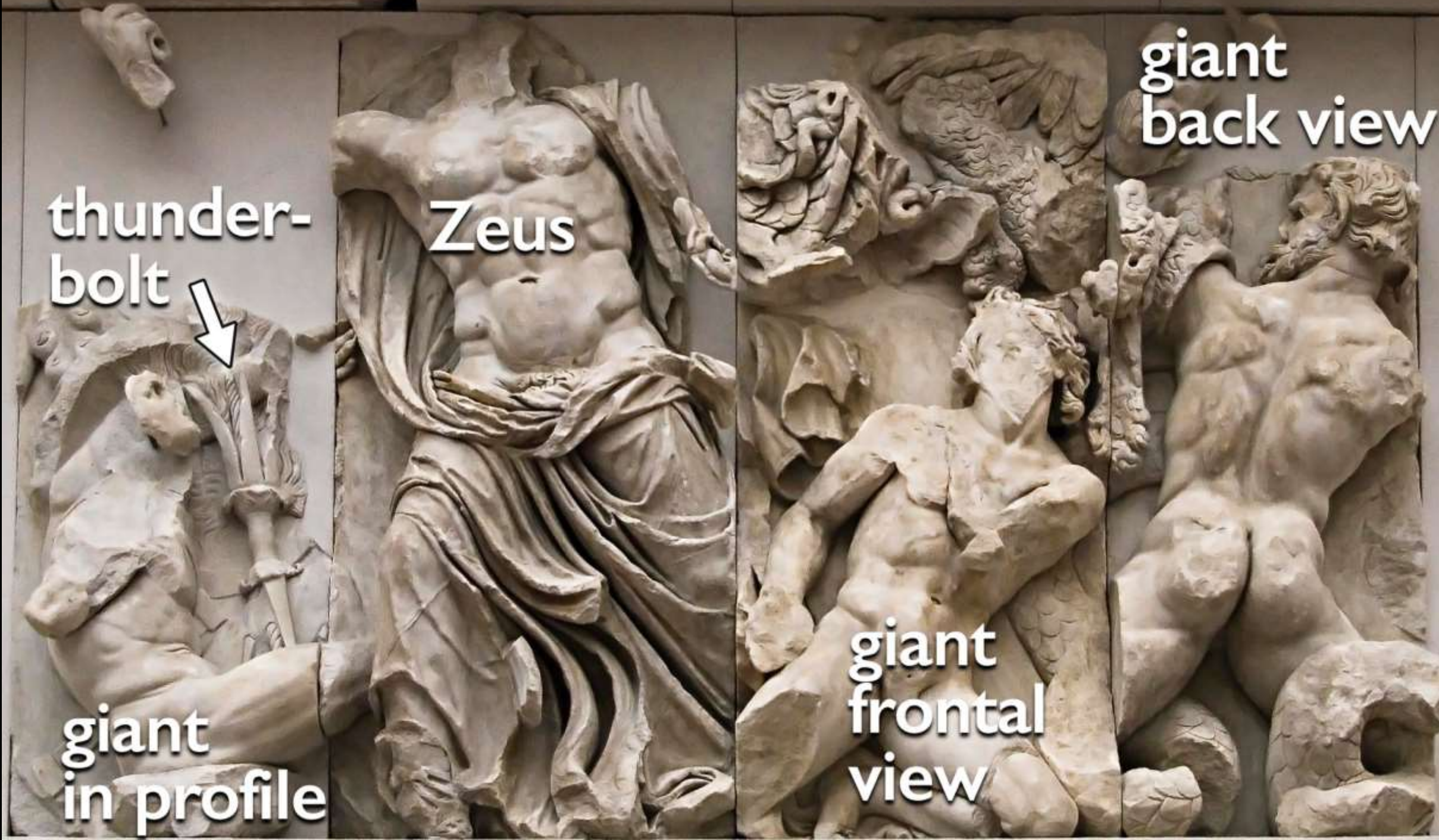


giant
in profile

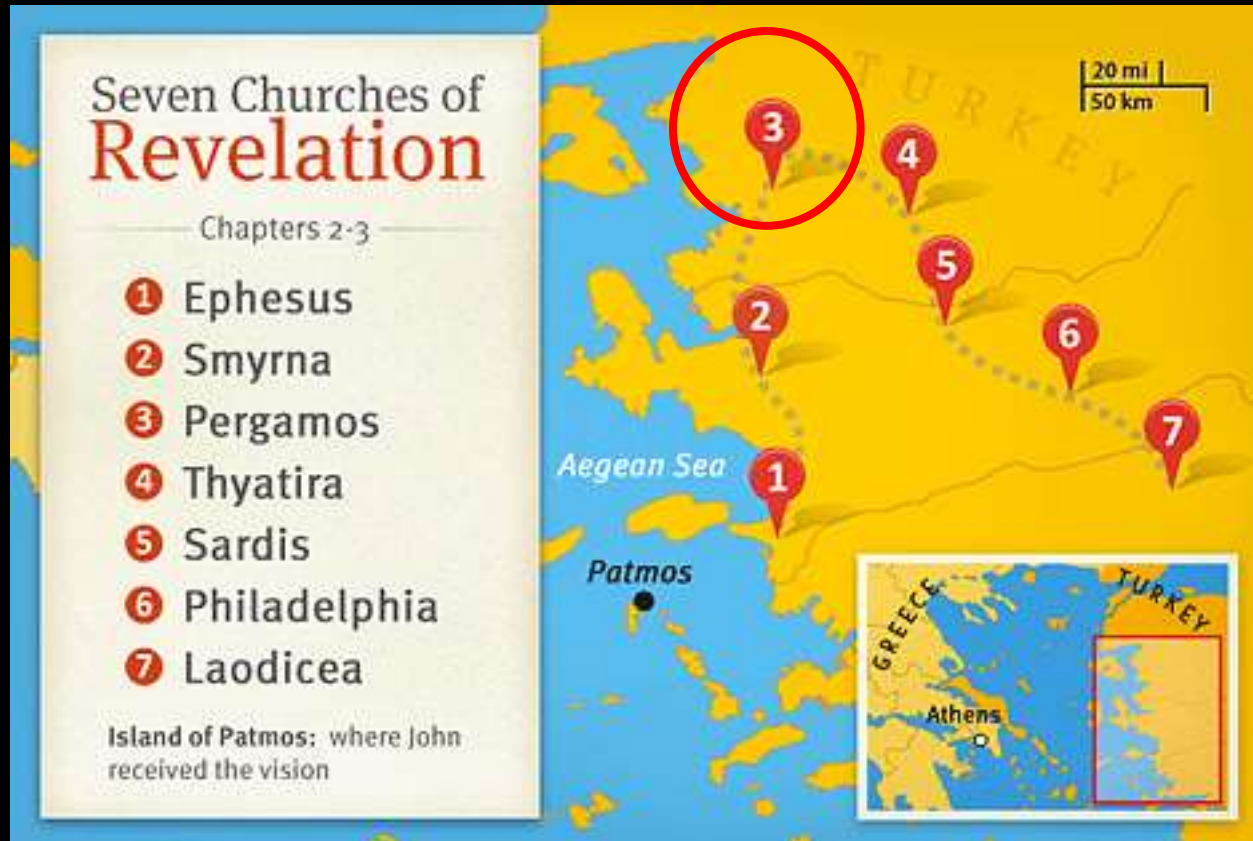
Zeus

giant
back view

giant
frontal
view



Patmos Island



<https://lifehopeandtruth.com/prophecy/revelation/seven-churches-of-revelation/>





<https://www.logos.com/grow/where-is-the-island-of-patmos-and-whats-it-like/>

2. Wartime Context

Τάδε λέγει – Letters or Prophetic Sermons?

“These things says the one....” (NKJV)

“This is the solemn pronouncement of” (NET)

“The words of him who has...” (ESV)

8x in NT (7x are here)

2:1 Τῷ ἀγγέλῳ τῆς ἐν Ἐφέσῳ ἐκκλησίας γράψον,
Τάδε λέγει ὁ κρατῶν τοὺς ἑπτὰ ἀστέρας ἐν τῇ δεξιᾷ αὐτοῦ, ὁ
περιπατῶν ἐν μέσῳ τῶν ἑπτὰ λυχνιῶν τῶν χρυσῶν.

2:8 Καὶ τῷ ἀγγέλῳ τῆς ἐν Σμύρνη ἐκκλησίας γράψον,
Τάδε λέγει ὁ πρῶτος καὶ ὁ ἔσχατος, ὃς ἐγένετο νεκρὸς καὶ ἔζησεν.

2:12 Καὶ τῷ ἀγγέλῳ τῆς ἐν Περγάμῳ ἐκκλησίας γράψον,
Τάδε λέγει ὁ ἔχων τὴν ῥομφαίαν τὴν δίστομον τὴν ὀξειᾶν.

3:1 Καὶ τῷ ἀγγέλῳ τῆς ἐν **Σάρδεσιν** ἐκκλησίας γράψον

Τάδε λέγει ὁ ἔχων τὰ ἑπτὰ πνεύματα τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ τοὺς ἑπτὰ ἀστέρας Οἶδά σου τὰ ἔργα, ὅτι ὄνομα ἔχεις ὅτι ζῆς, καὶ νεκρὸς εἶ.

3:7 Καὶ τῷ ἀγγέλῳ τῆς ἐν **Φιλαδελφίᾳ** ἐκκλησίας γράψον

Τάδε λέγει ὁ ἅγιος, ὁ ἀληθινός, ὁ ἔχων τὴν κλεῖν Δαυεῖδ / Δαυίδ, ὁ ἀνοίγων καὶ οὐδεὶς κλείσει, καὶ κλείων καὶ οὐδεὶς ἀνοίγει,

3:14 Καὶ τῷ ἀγγέλῳ τῆς ἐν **Λαοδικίᾳ** ἐκκλησίας γράψον

Τάδε λέγει ὁ Ἀμήν, ὁ μάρτυς ὁ πιστὸς καὶ (ὁ) ἀληθινός, ἡ ἀρχὴ τῆς κτίσεως τοῦ θεοῦ,

3. Sharp Two Edge Sword

Romphia / ῥομφαίαν

(Rev 1:16, 2:12, 16, 6:8, 19:15, 21)



Falx required modification to Roman armour.



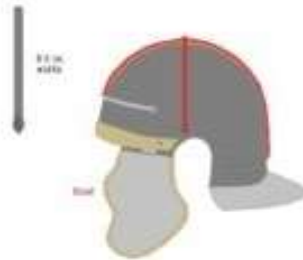
Not designed for hacking, the gladius would only bite rather than split or damage the shield.



The single edged blade of many Germanic tribes were excellent chopping weapons. They would damage any shield with a downward strike. The enemy would remain alive behind it though, which the Romans wanted to avoid.



Designed for chopping, the Falx does excellent damage against a round Roman shield. The forward hook serves its purpose well by then snagging the soldier behind it. An arm, a shoulder, and especially a head strike would greatly wound the enemy soldier. Falx about a headsize.



The Romans were shocked during their initial battles against Germanic tribes. The Falx made grievous head, shoulder and arm wounds on many soldiers in the legion. To combat this, the Roman military began adding iron strips into their helmets. This would help the helmet absorb blunt blows and save the soldier's life. He might be knocked unconscious, but at least they would live to fight in another battle. Other adaptations included additional armor on the right arm and shoulder to reduce injuries to the Roman sword arm.

What kind of sword do you think is mentioned in the LXX story of Balaam?

LXX – Numb 22:23 Donkey sees an angel with a *rhomphaia* drawn in his hand

LXX – Numb 22:29 – if only I had a *machaira* in my hand I would kill you right now

LXX – 22:31 “He saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road with his *machaira* drawn

LXX – 31:8 Balaam is killed “with the *rhomphaia*”

CHRISTS OMNISCIENCE: I KNOW...

2:1 – Ephesus – I know your works

2:9 – Smyrna – I know your tribulation

2:12 – Pergamum – I know where you dwell

2:19 – Thyatira - I know your works

3:1 – Sardis - I know your works

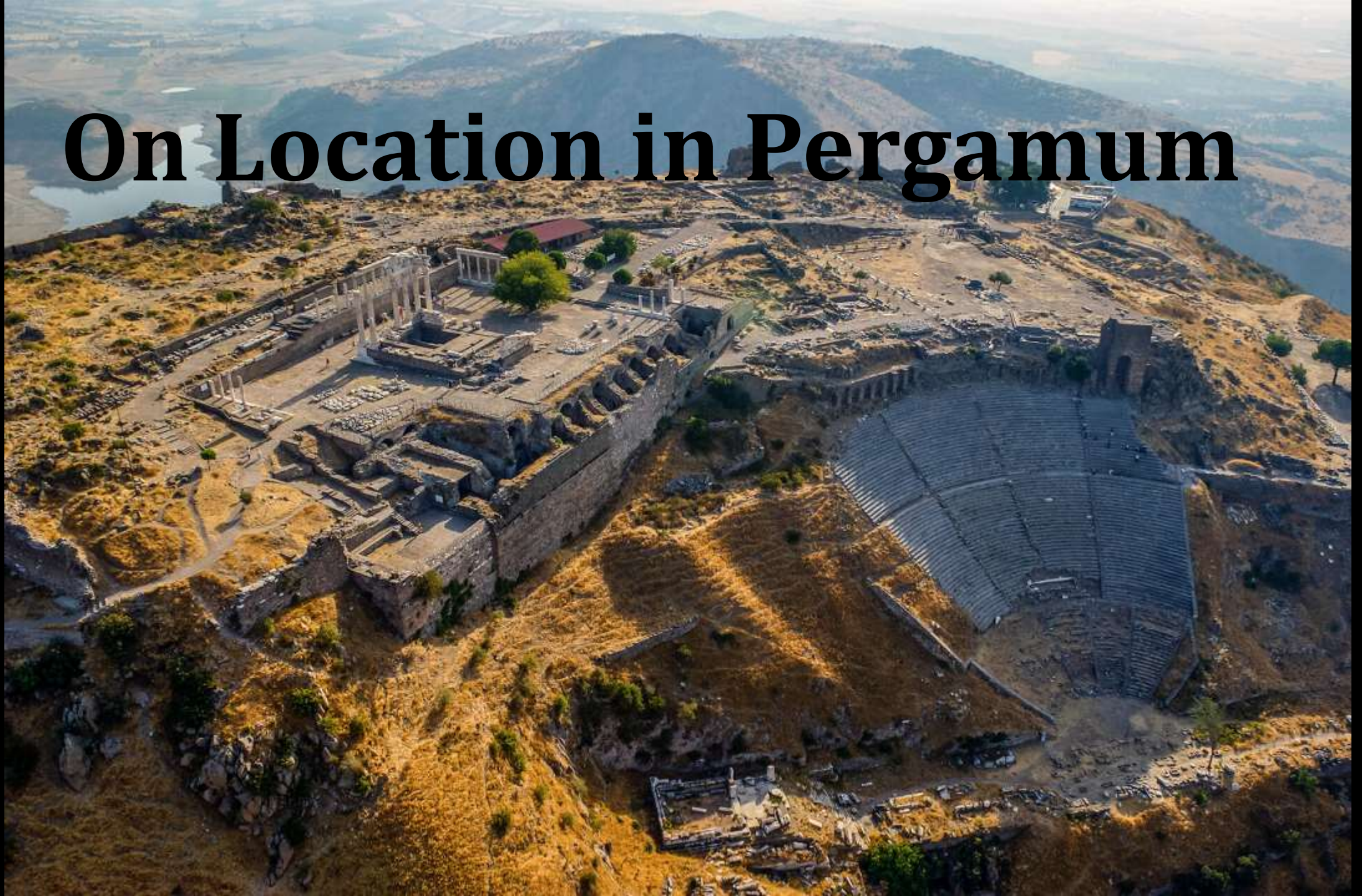
3:8 – Philadelphia – I know your works

3:15 – Laodicea - I know your works

4. Commendation: Attack from Without



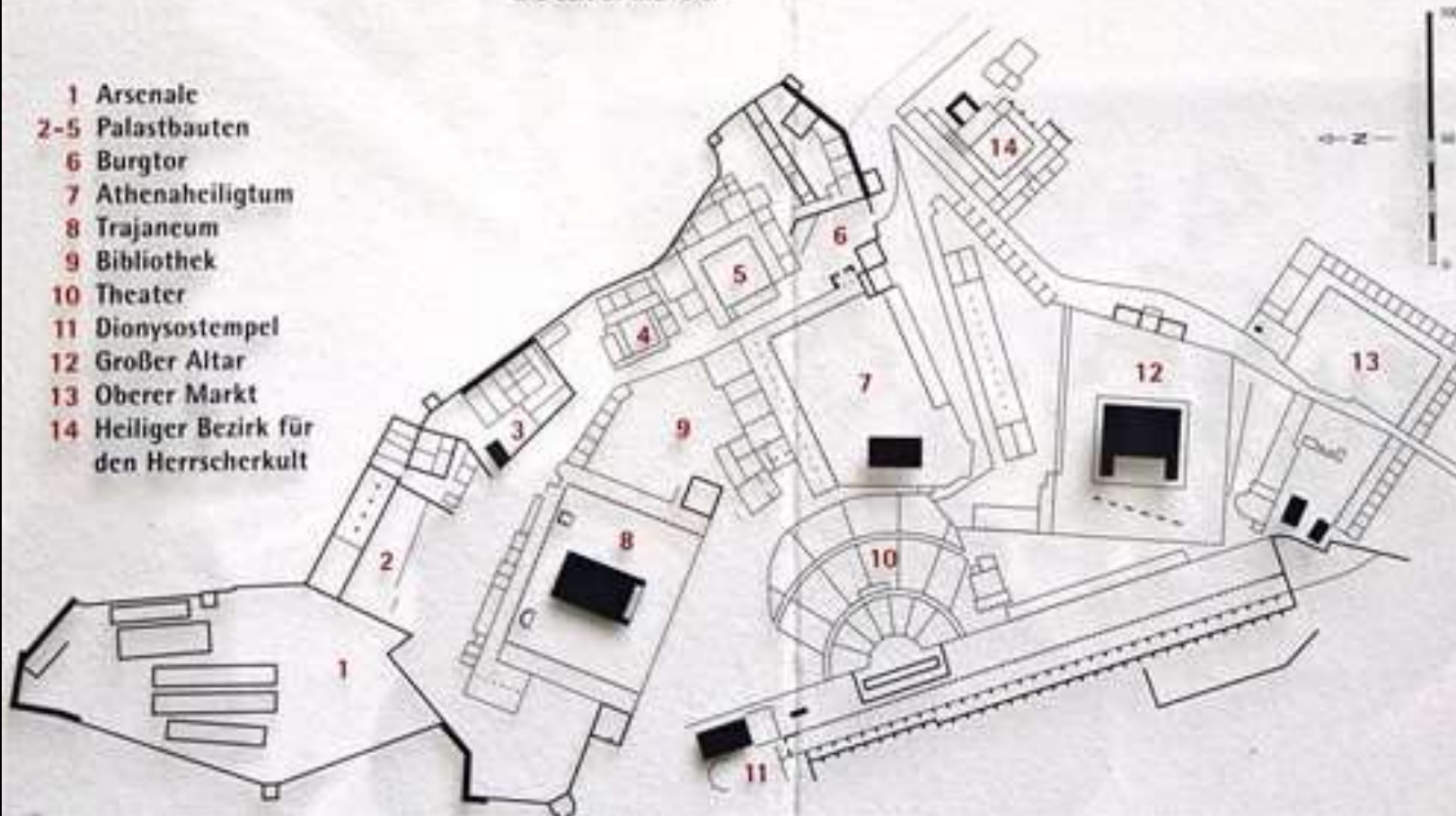
On Location in Pergamum



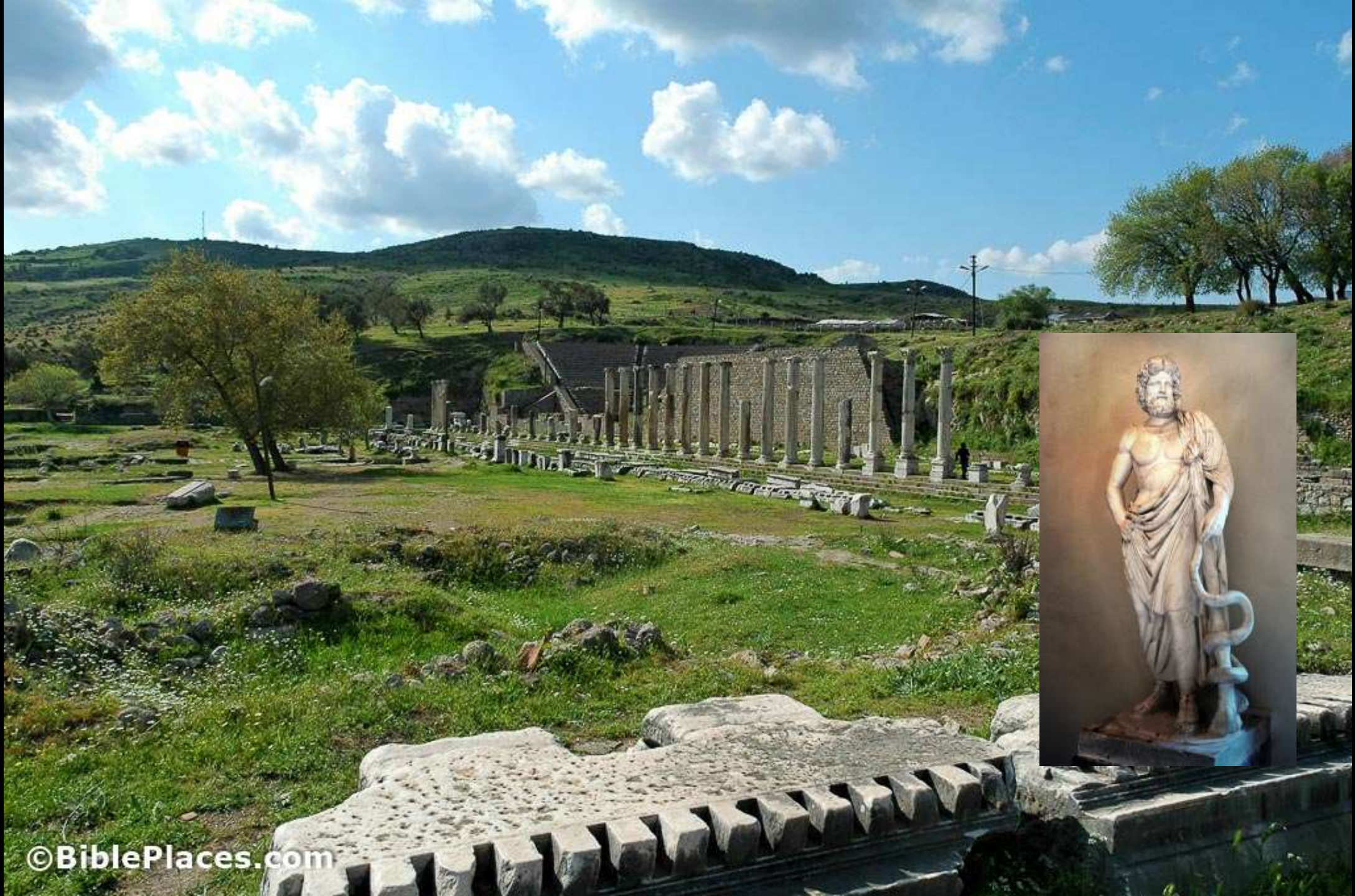
Akropolis von Pergamon Acropolis of Pergamon

- 1 Arsenal
- 2-5 Palaces
- 6 Gate of the citadel
- 7 Sanctuary of Athena
- 8 Trajaneum
- 9 Library
- 10 Theatre
- 11 Temple of Dionysus
- 12 Great altar
- 13 Upper market
- 14 Sacred precinct for the cult of the ruler

- 1 Arsenale
- 2-5 Palastbauten
- 6 Burgtor
- 7 Athenaheiligtum
- 8 Trajaneum
- 9 Bibliothek
- 10 Theater
- 11 Dionysostempel
- 12 Großer Altar
- 13 Oberer Markt
- 14 Heiliger Bezirk für den Herrscherkult















Shipped to Germany in 300+ cases (late 19th century)



Alkyoneos

Athena

Nike

Ge

An altar commemorating battles of the God's was at the center of a city called Satan's throne, against which Christ came with a sword.

thunder-
bolt

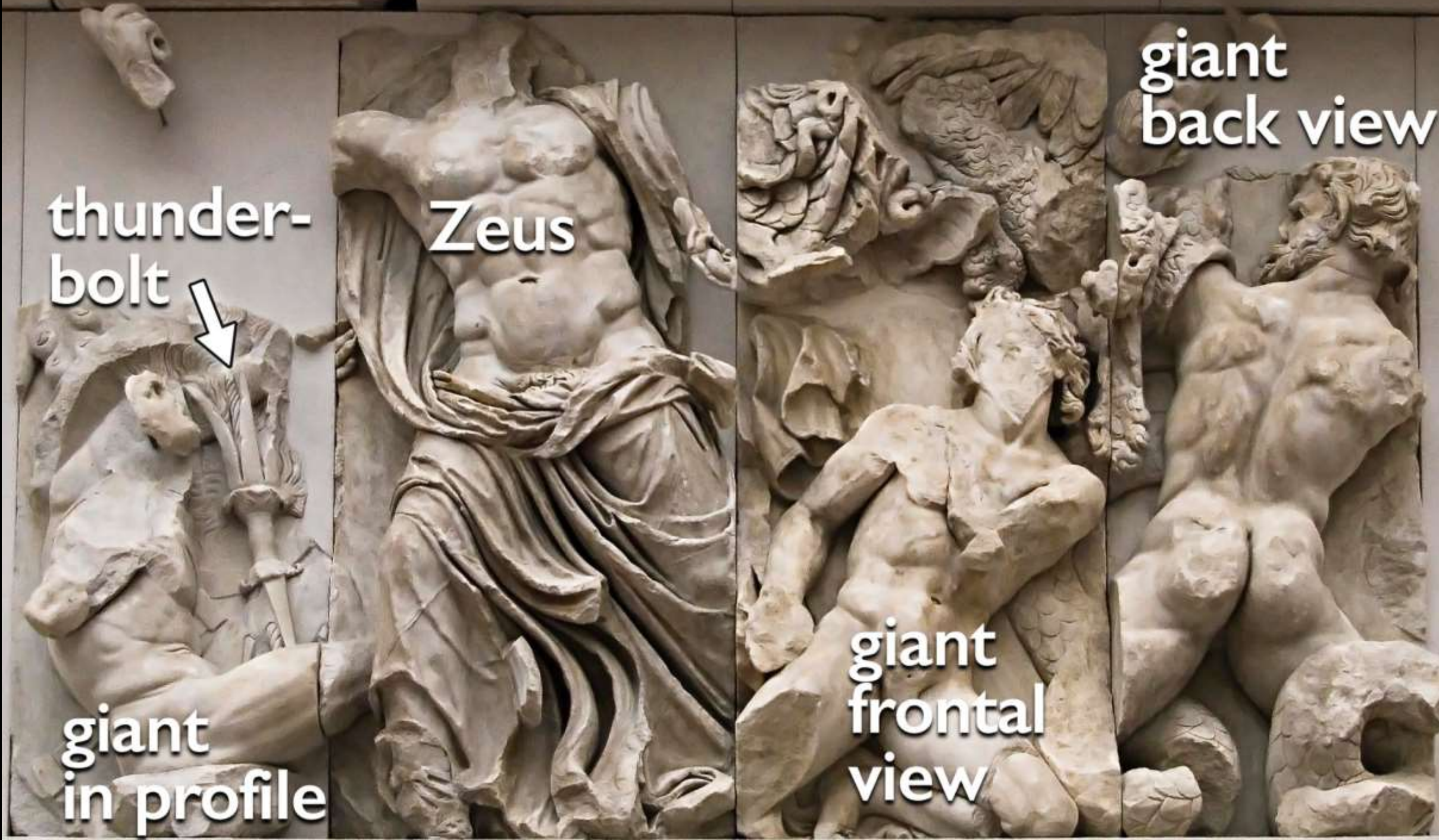


Zeus

giant
in profile

giant
back view

giant
frontal
view



5. CORRECTION: DON'T LOSE THE
BATTLE OF IDEAS FROM WITHIN

Food Sacrificed to Idols

- ***Makellon*** - Marketplace Meat (1 Cor 10:25)
- ***Eidolotheton*** - cultic meal... eaten as part of a religious meal, or in a temple (Rev 2:14, 20)

6. CONSOLATION